



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

was repeated, and it tended to confirm the theory—he might almost call it the law—that these so-called abnormalities become more common the further our examinations are extended, and that, in reality, there are very few abnormal formations, strictly considered. This specimen was another instance, that what appears to be abnormal on a limited examination, is found to be common when the investigations are extended.

Mr. MACKENZIE drew attention to the fact, that the enamel of the teeth was perfectly preserved after an interment of about 600 years; and he desired to know the nature of the soil in which the bodies had been buried.

Mr. ROBERTS stated that the date of the jaw was about the year 1280, and that the bodies had been buried in gravel. He saw about six or seven different skeletons; but they were so much decomposed, that he could not get more than the jaw, which he now produced, and a few bones.

Mr. MACKENZIE further observed, that in the skeletons of some of the men killed in Cromwell's battles, though of a much more recent date, the teeth were all decayed.

Mr. C. CARTER BLAKE said, that the state of preservation in which skeletons were found depended on the nature of the substance in which the bodies had been deposited. In the human remains found in peat, the enamel was always well preserved.

The thanks of the meeting having been given to Mr. Roberts and to Mr. C. Carter Blake, the following paper was read:—

On Human Remains from Kent's Hole, near Torquay. By C. CARTER BLAKE, F.G.S., F.A.S.L., Foreign Associate of the Anthropological Society of Paris.

SOME time ago, Mr. William Davies, of the British Museum, to whom I am indebted for many suggestions relating to the specimens in that collection, called my attention to a few remains from the classically celebrated cave of Kent's Hole, which had been obtained by purchase from a dealer named Heggerty, and which had been passed over by many observers on the subject. I shall, with the Society's permission, give a list of these objects, with a few descriptive notes.

1. Left humerus, covered on one side with thin layer of stalagmite, charged with carbonate of iron.

2. Left ulna, exhibiting traces, but in less degree, of stalagmitic deposit; the bone is worn very thin in middle, where it has been gnawed by mice, or other small rodents.

3. Axis and six fragments of cervical vertebrae.

4. Right ramus of the inferior mandible of an aged individual; no teeth are in place. Sockets, however, exist, indicating the spots where δ 1, δ 2 on right side, δ 1 on left side, canine on right side, and p 1 and p 2 right side have been. Alveolar absorption operating for a long period of time before death, has removed all traces of the true molar series. The body of the jaw is consequently very thin immediately below this part, a flattened depression, as is usual in aged individuals, scooping backwards a cavity, which obliterating

nearly every trace of alveolus, has ascended the inner side of the coronoid process. The tip and a great part of this process has been broken away, but sufficient remains to show that it was during adult life strong and powerful, extending well forward in front of an imaginary vertical line drawn from the posterior edge of the third molar tooth. Concomitant with the alveolar absorption, and the other traces of age, bony deposit has extended across the sigmoid notch, rendering that depression even more shallow than it would appear from the evident slenderness of the condyle, which also has been broken away. The depressions for the attachment of muscles are well marked, especially that for the *masseter*, which is so well developed, that the external angular process, for the attachment of that muscle, is prominently developed outwards and upwards into a tuberculous elevation of bony matter.

Turning to the inner side of the jaw, we find that the same conditions prevail. The inferior dental foramen is deep; its attendant mylohyoid groove well marked. The asperity for the attachment of the entopterygoid muscle is well marked, without however producing anything approaching to that inflexion of the inner margin, which forms so striking a feature in the jaw from Moulin-Quignon. In fact, all the curvature of the jaw in this part brings the most salient portion of the inferior margin outwards, not inwards, in such manner as to make the convex surface be inwards, the concave outwards, this conformation being produced by the great depression for the *masseter* muscle, and elevation of the angle. The obliquity of the ramus, which would otherwise have been very great, is thus by the minor development of the pterygoid process, compared with the same part in the Moulin-Quignon jaw, reduced to a great extent. I append a few measurements of the jaw.

	ins.
Length of mandible, from tuber maxillare, to angle	3.6
Height of ascending ramus (tips of condyle and coronoid being broken away)	2.45
Length of dental series from mesial incisive line to posterior edge of second premolar	1.25
Distance from mental foramen to mesial incisive line	1.12
Height of jaw between front incisors	1.5
Ditto at presumed spot of second molar	0.8

5. Four fragments of cranial bones. The conditions under which the above bones seem to have been deposited are, according to my interpretation, that they have lain loosely on the floor of the cave, where they have become coated with small portions of stalagmite, without being imbedded in that substance. On comparison of their mineral conditions with those of the remains of *Felis spelæa*, *Ursus spelæus*, *Hyæna spelæa*, and the other animals so commonly found under the stalagmite in the same locality, I have been struck with the entire dissimilarity which prevails. Although very little animal substance remains in the human remains, yet on comparing them with those of *Hyæna* from the same cave, the characteristically red infiltration is present on both.

The conclusion I wish to draw is, that no high antiquity can be

assigned to the remains I have just described; I nevertheless have felt bound to investigate them, as the occurrence of human remains, with the frequently described works of art from the same locality, would be of the highest interest, should any such hereafter be discovered.

Mr. ROBERTS said, that about four years ago the sum of £450 was granted by the Royal Society for the complete examination and clearing out of Kent's Hole, and a committee was appointed for the purpose; but owing to the gentlemen who composed it residing so far from the spot, and to other circumstances, they did not do much towards the accomplishment of the desired object. The chief thing they did was to discover about twenty flint implements in the mud of the cave, the whole of which were in his possession. He was afraid that nothing else was done by that committee; but he thought it very desirable that the cave which contained so many interesting objects should be cleared out, and that all the bones and flint implements, and other objects associated with them, should be collected and properly arranged.

On Human Remains from a Bone Cave in Brazil. By C. CARTER BLAKE, F.G.S., F.A.S.L., Foreign Associate of the Anthropological Society of Paris.

IN the British Museum there exist some human remains purchased with the Claussen collection, and forming part of the series of specimens which were discovered by Lund and Claussen in their investigations in Eastern Brazil.

Mr. W. Davies having kindly drawn my attention to them, I will give a short list of the specimens, without wishing to draw any further conclusion than that they probably belong to a period of great historical antiquity, although probably not coeval with the fossil fauna which Lund has described in the *Transactions* of various northern academies.

1. Skull of young child. This skull is brachycephalic and asymmetrical, the right side being shorter than the left. There are evident traces of "parietooccipital" flattening, which has extended above the lambdoid and for a well defined space on either side of the sagittal suture. None of the sutures are complex. Flattening on the left side of the frontal bone is manifest, indicating the direction in which the compressing force has been exercised throughout life. No other abnormal development is visible. The molar and premolar teeth in place show little signs of erosion. The basioccipito-sphenoid suture having been present, the basioccipital bone has been broken away, as well as the right border of the foramen magnum and the right squamosal bone. The maxilla is slightly prognathic. The skull presents the most similarity to the skulls from Cañete, in Peru, described by Castelnau, and to some which I have seen from the uplands of the Argentine provinces, near Rosario.

2. Broken maxillary (adult?) left side. The first premolar, as well as the broken fragment of the second premolar, are the only teeth which remain. Slight erosion is visible on the crown of the first tooth.